DE RUEHWL #0060 0610250 ZNY SSSSS ZZH O 020250Z MAR 09 FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5781 INFO RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY 0009 RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY 0010 RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 0031 RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD PRIORITY 0033 RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0524 RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0091 RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 0065 RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0132 RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY 0017 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 0052 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 0027 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 5465 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 0004 RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY 0047 RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 0070 RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0076 RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY 0205 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0222 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0071 RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 0578 RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY 0084 RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY 0046 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0194 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0196 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0343 RUEHOU/AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY 0004 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0340 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0103 RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY 0024 RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA PRIORITY 0008 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0730 RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PRIORITY 0005 RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA PRIORITY 0008 RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0036

## S E C R E T WELLINGTON 000060

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/ANP; ISN FOR RICHARD NEPHEW, MATT GOLDSTEIN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/02/2025
TAGS: PARM KNNP IAEA MNUC IR SYR NZ
SUBJECT: GNZ AGREES WITH USG POINTS ON IRAN AND SYRIA; WILL
ISSUE STRONG STATEMENTS

REF: STATE 16285

Classified By: Acting DCM Margaret B. McKean; Reason 1.4 (b) and (d)  $\ \ \,$ 

(S) On March 2, Acting DCM met with Jillian Dempster, Deputy Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade International Security and Disarmament Division to discuss reftel points. Dempster agreed with the USG views, noting that MFAT had forwarded draft statements on both Iran and Syria to Cabinet Ministers last week. The Government of New Zealand's position on both Iran and Syria under the new National-led government of PM John Key is likely to remain similar to that of former Labour PM Helen Clark. Dempster observed that in both the cases of Iran and Syria, the Director General's reports indicate that "the situation has not been fixed." Iran has not complied with IAEA requests for comprehensive access, has not provided design information, and has built roofs over its installations thereby limiting satellite information that provided some level of data. On Syria, the GNZ believes that the issues surrounding the discovery of uranium in the soil samples from the destroyed alleged reactor site "are concerning" and that the GNZ does not deem as fully credible the GOS explanation

that the uranium derives from Israeli missiles.

- 12. (S) Dempster added that New Zealand would be sending a new Ambassador to Tehran shortly -- Brian Sanders who is currently working in MFAT's Asia Division on Korea and Japan will be replacing Hamish McMaster, who will return to Wellington. The MFAT official added that Sanders has previous Middle East experience, having served in Riyadh. She also said that the Iranian Embassy has been conspicuously silent in the lead up to the March Board of Governors meeting. Usually, the Iranian government conducts a public diplomacy campaign and demarches the GNZ; this year, there have been no meeting requests with MFAT, said Dempster.
- 13. (S) On issuing the Syrian report to the public, Dempster reported that some NAM members of the Board do not want either the Iran or Syria reports to be made public, and will try to block BOG release of the reports. She said that the GNZ would stay in touch with like-minded governments in Vienna and "see what the traffic will bear."

  KEEGAN